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To: Director and Laboratory Staff
From: Survey and Appraisal
Subject: SURVEY NOTES

FARM SITUATION AND GENERAL BUSINESS ACTIVITY

DEMAND FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND OTHER GOODS CONTINUES STRONG

General business activity continues high and is supporting a strong demand for farm products and other goods and services. Employment and income payments are at, or near, record levels. Personal income continued to rise in March with expansion in salary and wage receipts accounting for almost all of the increase. the general level of wholesale prices remains steady around the high reached in early February when ceiling prices became effective.

Prices received by farmers declined moderately in May for the third consecutive month and now average 3 percent below the February peak. Both crop and livestock prices were lower with most of the decline occurring in prices of meat animals, strawberries, cotton, milk, wool and wheat. Prices paid by farmers were off slightly from mid-April but the parity ratio continued to decline, dropping from 113 in February to 108 in May.

The Demand and Price Situation, BAE, May 1951,p.1.

COTTON LINT

NEW COTTON CROP ESTIMATED TO BE 50 to 55 PERCENT MORE THAN LAST SEASON

According to the final estimate released by the Department of Agriculture, the 1950-51 cotton crop amounts to 10,012,000 bales of 500 pounds gross, 38 percent less than the 16,128,000 bales produced in the previous season. With 17.8 million acres harvested, the yield per acre for the current crop was 269 pounds which, although slightly higher than originally expected, is somewhat less than the average 5-year yield of about 272 pounds per acre.

In the autumn of 1950 the government announced a production "guide" of 16 million bales for the 1951-52 crop. More recently acreage goals for each state have been set, amounting to 28.5 million planted acres for the whole country. With plantings still continuing in the northern and western sections of the Cotton Belt, expectations—based on commercial estimates—are that last season's acreages will probably be increased by: 25-30 percent in the Eastern Belt (Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida), 25-35 percent in the Central Belt (Mississippi, Louisiana, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Missouri), 75 percent in Texas, and 100 percent in the Far West (New Mexico, Arizona, and California). There is still marked divergence of opinion as to the probable size of plantings in Oklahoma. (Table 1).

Table 1.- Cotton acreages, yield per acre and production in the U. S., 1948-1952

	Eastern belt	Central belt	Western belt	Far Western belt	U. S. total
Acreage harvested			Million acres		
1948-49	4,831	7,158	9,638	1,294	22,921
1949-50	5,622	7,742	12,200	1,666	27,230
1950-51	3,824	5,483	7,495	1,026	17,828
1951-52 (est. increase)	25-30%	25-35%	75%	100%	50-55%
Yield per acre harvested			Pounds		
1946-47/1950-51 ave.	266	324	196	624	272
1948-49	351	421	176	568	311
1949-50	214	301	261	599	284
1950-51/	208	307	203	763	269
Production			Million bales 1/		
1948-49	3,536	6,282	3,527	1,532	14,877
1949-50	2,512	4,879	6,650	2,087	16,128
1950-51	1,667	3,519	3,188	1,638	10,012
1951-52 estimate:					
(1) at 1948-49 yields	3,594	6,278	4,829	2,438	17,139
(2) at 1950-51 yields	2,130	4,578	5,570	3,275	15,553

1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.
From Cotton, International Cotton Advisory Committee, May 1951, p. 4.

CARRYOVER MAY DROP BELOW 2 MILLION BALES

The carry-over on July 31 will probably be about 1.9 million bales, the smallest since August 1, 1925, and compares with 6.8 million for last year. Total disappearance (domestic consumption plus exports) will probably amount to 15.0 million bales. Total supply for 1950-51 is estimated at about 16.9 million bales. This includes carry-over on August 1, 1950; imports for consumption of about 170,000 bales, and production of 9.9 million bales.

The Cotton Situation, April-May 1951, p. 4.

MAY COTTON CONSUMPTION, STOCKS DECREASE

Aggregate consumption of cotton decreased to 832,612 bales during May compared with 980,906 bales the previous month and 718,826 bales during May a year ago. Mill consumption per working day increased during May to 42,698 bales, compared with 39,766 bales per day in April and 45,583 bales in March. In May a year ago, the daily rate was 35,941 bales. It is expected that the rate of mill output will slacken during the remainder of the season and mill consumption in 1950-51 is likely to total in the neighborhood of 10-3/4 million bales, the largest consumption since the 1942-43 season and the third largest on record. About 8,851,000 bales were consumed in the 1949-50 season.

Active spindle hours in May declined to 10.4 billions, compared with 12.4 the previous month and 8.9 billions in May a year ago. Spindle activity in May jumped 6.1 percent compared with the previous month and stood 16 percent higher than May a year ago.

Table 2.- Cotton consumption and stocks, and spindle hours in cotton mills

	May 1951 1/	April 1951 2/	March 1951 1/	May 1950 1/
Consumption:				
Aggregate, bales	832,612	980,906	911,654	718,826
Average per working day, bales	42,698	39,766	45,583	35,941
On hand, 1,000 bales	3,726	4,781	5,985	8,198
Active spindle hours, billions	10.4	12.4	11.1	8.9
Spindle activity, percent of capacity 3/	144.1	136.4	149.7	128.1

1/ Based on 4-week period.
2/ Based on 5-week period.
3/ Includes activity on fibers other than cotton totaling 0.3 to 0.6 billion spindle hours for each period shown.
From Bureau of the Census reports.

RAW COTTON AND FABRIC PRICES AND MILL MARGINS DECLINE

The delivered at mill price of Middling 15/16-inch cotton on June 15 declined to 47.12 cents per pound, and stood 1,181 points higher than the same month a year ago. The average price for cloth from 1 pound of cotton fell to 87.89 cents in May, 2.97 cents lower than the previous month. The May average mill margins continued to decrease for the fifth consecutive month and stood at 42.57 cents. However, this margin still was 11.11 cents higher than the same month a year ago. June prices of 37" 4.00 yard sheeting, osnaburg (36" 2.35 yard) and printcloth (38-1/2" 5.35 yard) were all lower than the previous month and sold for 22.50 cents, 33.50 and 18.75 cents respectively.

Table 3.- Prices of raw cotton, rayon staple and cotton fabrics, and cotton mill margins

(Cents per unit)

	June 15: 1951	May 1951	April 1951	March 1951	June 1950
Cotton, Middling 15/16" delivered at mills, lb	47.12	47.10	47.15	47.14	35.31
Rayon, viscose staple equivalent price 1/, lb	35.60	35.60	35.60	35.60	31.15
Rayon, acetate staple equivalent price 1/, lb	42.72	42.72	42.72	42.72	37.38
Cotton fabrics, average 17 constructions:					
Price for cloth from 1 lb. of cotton 2/	-	87.89	90.86	95.02	65.45
Mill margins 3/	-	42.57	45.60	49.80	31.66
Sheeting, 37" 4.00 yd. 4/	22.50	24.75	24.75	24.75	15.75
Osnaburg, 36" 2.35 yd. 5/	33.50	34.50	34.50	34.50	21.50
Printcloth, 38-1/2" 5.35 yd. 4/	18.75	20.50	20.50	23.00	14.75

1/ Cost to mill of same amount of usable fiber as supplied by one pound of cotton (rayon price x.89).
2/ Price of approximate quantity of cloth obtainable from a pound of cotton with adjustments for salable waste (Cotton Branch, PMA).
3/ Difference between cloth prices and price (10-market average) of cotton as assumed to be used in each kind of cloth (Cotton Branch, PMA).
4/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.
5/ From Journal of Commerce.
6/ No quotations available.

STUDY NEW STANDARDS FOR ANGLO-EGYPTIAN COTTON

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced that consideration is being given to revision of the standards for grades of American-Egyptian cotton. Currently there are two sets of standards for American-Egyptian cotton: One for the Pima variety, and one for the SXP variety. Officials stated that both of these varieties are rapidly going out of production, and that it is essential that the standards be changed at the earliest possible moment to fit current crops of this important growth of cotton. It is proposed that the revised standards become effective on and after August 1, 1952.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, June 23, 1951, p. 1.

C O T T O N P R O D U C T S

BAE STUDY ON TEXTILE USE IN AUTOMOBILES FOR 1950 GIVEN

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics recently issued a study on the consumption of textiles used in the production of 1950 closed passenger model automobile interiors, which includes upholstery, sidewall, headlining, seat padding, and foundation sheeting. The overall summary of this study shows the following figures in thousands of pounds for the above items (Total) as well as that total except seat padding (Except Padding).

Table 4.- Consumption of textiles in the production of 1950 closed passenger model automobile interiors

Materials	Total Pounds	Except Padding	
		Pounds	Percent
Wool and mohair	33,531	33,237	39
Cotton	197,289	30,528	36
Nylon	4,098	4,098	5
Rayon	9,865	9,865	11
Vinyl	5,001	5,001	6
Leather	2,704	2,704	3
Paper	94	94	-
Sisal	22,790	0	0
Jute	5,998	0	0
Foam Rubber	39,790	0	0
Hair	225	0	0
Total	321,385	85,527	100

The study states that the above data include the textile fibers used in the production of 6,648,238 closed passenger automobiles. It follows, therefore, that each automobile averaged approximately 48½ pounds of textiles, including 35½ pounds for seat padding and 13 pounds for other purposes.

Another section of the same study shows the quantity of materials purchased for the manufacture of tops for the 234,121 convertible type automobiles made in 1950. These data follow in thousands of pounds: cotton 1,829, rayon 117, latex 2094, and total 4,040. This would mean that the typical weight of a top for the 1950 convertible averaged about 17 pounds of material.

Rayon Organon, May 1951, p. 67.

1950 COTTON END USES GIVEN BY NATIONAL COTTON COUNCIL

The National Cotton Council, in its May 1951 publication "Cotton Counts Its Customers," presents preliminary estimates of cotton's end uses in apparel for the most recent calendar year. Data for 1948 and 1949 have been extracted from prior studies and presented in table 5 for purposes of comparison.

Table 5.- Cotton consumption by apparel end uses for 1948-50

	1950	1949	1948
	BALES (478-lb. net weight)		
MEN's, YOUTHS', AND BOYS' WEARING APPAREL, TOTAL...	1,853,870	1,771,430	1,835,420
Bathing suits and trunks	7,370	9,310	10,900
Bathrobes, dressing gowns, and smoking jackets	5,160	5,060	4,450
Coats and jackets	74,270	72,170	65,160
Gloves	101,550	99,560	137,910
Handkerchiefs	31,370	26,990	27,720
Hosiery	140,540	153,020	149,500
Overalls and coveralls	129,960	114,190	115,570
Overcoats	1,120	1,080	1,190
Pajamas and nightshirts	65,750	51,500	64,090
Rainwear	5,530	11,400	11,950
Shirts	537,650	534,330	562,580
Suits	34,220	34,950	35,590
Sweaters	9,890	4,340	4,670
Trousers	435,490	380,110	337,480
Underwear	244,170	240,650	265,050
Washable service apparel	29,830	32,770	41,610
WOMEN'S, MISSES', AND JUNIORS' WEARING APPAREL, TOTAL	702,080	601,180	560,490
Aprons, pinafores, smocks, and housecoats	15,080	20,500	23,710
Bathing suits	2,300	2,460	3,260
Bathrobes and beach robes	19,880	18,950	13,340
Blouses, waists, and shirts	33,800	23,930	18,380
Coats and jackets	84,760	5,440	4,820
Dresses	233,050	215,850	168,950
Foundation garments	52,560	52,120	52,330
Gloves and Mittens	9,380	10,770	12,510
Handkerchiefs	7,710	6,630	6,800
Hosiery	44,080	47,820	54,950
Housecoats, including breakfast and brunch coats	12,020	14,060	12,120
Negligees and bed jackets	690	1,000	470
Nightgowns, pajamas, and other nightwear	47,450	50,570	64,240
Overalls and coveralls	1,410	690	1,500
Rainwear	500	1,800	2,160
Sportswear	32,590	33,510	27,530
Suits and skirts	26,370	16,690	7,350
Sweaters and Jerseys	6,080	2,730	3,240
Underwear	58,550	59,370	61,930
Washable service apparel	16,820	16,290	20,400
CHILDREN'S AND INFANTS' WEARING APPAREL, TOTAL	388,440	345,260	376,300
Bathing suits and trunks	910	870	1,000
Bathrobes and beach robes	7,730	7,310	7,190
Blouses, waists, and shirts	11,740	11,950	11,800
Coats, leggings, legging sets, and jackets	6,360	7,410	6,450
Diapers	31,650	29,420	25,240
Dresses, dozen price and unit price	55,090	59,960	50,460
Gloves and mittens	430	430	430
Hosiery	42,330	37,580	38,330
Infants' Wear, Miscellaneous	1,670	1,460	1,230
Nightwear and pajamas	34,700	31,360	29,150
Overalls and coveralls	30,880	30,520	27,330
Rainwear	1,710	1,830	1,990
Sportswear	71,250	62,310	56,180
Suits and skirts	9,340	8,890	9,210
Sweaters, jerseys, and pullovers	7,570	5,320	5,390
Underwear	75,080	79,680	73,880

USED BAGS TRADE URGES PRICE RULE

An industry advisory committee representing the used textile bag dealers has told officials of the Office of Price Stabilization that a dollars-and-cents ceiling pricing regulation for the industry is of great urgency. The industry is concerned with the buying and selling of second-hand burlap and cotton bags used principally in marketing agricultural crops.

Committee members previously met with OPS officials informally on April 6. At that time industry members felt it would be difficult to set dollars-and-cents ceiling prices on used burlap bags because of the distrubed situation in the import prices of burlap, which basically control the price of used burlap bags. Since then dollars-and-cents ceiling prices on imported burlap have been set by ceiling Price Regulation 40, issued and effective May 24, 1951.

Journal of Commerce, June 11, 1951, p.16.

COTTON AND BURLAP BAG PRICES DECLINE: PAPER UNCHANGED

The price for new cotton flour bags on June 15 dropped $14.75 from the previous month and stood at $325.25 per thousand. This compares with $340.00 per thousand in May and $230.00 in June a year ago. Burlap flour bags declined $7.65 per thousand on June 15 and sold for $403.05 per thousand. This compares with $410.70 the previous month and $227.50 per thousand in June, 1950.

Table 6.- Mid-month prices of 100 pound flour bags

(Dollars per thousand)

	June 1951	May 1951	April 1951	June 1950
Prices, new, St. Louis 1/				
Cotton	325.25	340.00	349.00	230.00
Burlap	403.05	410.70	410.70	227.50
Paper	117.70	117.70	117.70	94.15
Prices, second-hand, New York				
Cotton, once-used 2/	4/	220.00	250.00	140.00
Cotton, bakery-run 3/	170.00	170.00	185.00	100.00
Burlap, once-used 2/	4/	4/	4/	100.00
Burlap, bakery-run 3/	185.00	185.00	185.00	105.00
Paper, bakery-run 3/	45.00	45.00	45.00	5.00
Difference				
Cotton, new minus once-used	4/	120.00	99.00	90.00
Cotton, new minus bakery-run	155.25	170.00	164.00	130.00
Burlap, new minus once-used	4/	4/	4/	127.50
Burlap, new minus bakery-run	218.05	225.70	225.70	122.50
Paper, new minus bakery-run	72.70	72.70	72.70	89.15

1/ Cotton, 37" 4.00 yd. sheeting cut 42" unprinted; burlap, 36" 10 oz. cut 43" unprinted; paper, 18 x 4-1/2 x 36-3/4" unprinted; all l.c.l. shipments. No allowance made for quantity or cash discounts. From a large bag manufacturer.
2/ From a large second-hand bag dealer.
3/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.
4/ Not available.

COTTON RUGS MOVE FROM STORE BASEMENT TO BECOME A HEAVY FACTOR IN CARPETING

One of the recent great examples of our flexibility under the free enterprise system has been the aggressive entry of the cotton rug people into the floor covering industry during the past few years. There are signs within the floor covering industry that the challenge of the cotton men will not go unanswered. Already some of the large wool carpet mills are considering the addition of cotton rugs into their fall lines. But this does not constitute a gain on the part of wool but rather the recognition that the cotton rug has moved out of the store basement and into the floor covering section. In the past 10 years while wool carpet output gained 20 percent, cotton rug production jumped 900 percent.

Journal of Commerce, May 23 1951, p. 16.

DRESS SHIRT OUTPUT TOPPED BY SPORT ITEMS DURING 1950

During 1950, for the first time in the history of the industry, the production of men's sport shirts exceeded that of dress shirts, according to a bulletin received from the National Association of Shirt, Pajama and Sportswear Manufacturers. Climaxing, for the present, a trend that has become more pronounced during the last few years, industry output of sport shirts last year rose to a new peak of 8,577,000 dozens, surpassing the former record 7,279,900 dozens, set in 1949, by almost 1,300,000 dozens. Sports shirt output amounted to only 27 percent of the total in 1947, increased to 36 percent in 1948, 45 percent in 1949, and finally to 50-1/2 percent last year. A breakdown of the fabrics used in the manufacture of sport shirts in 1950 reveals that approximately 54 percent were made of cotton and 46 percent of other fabrics.

Journal of Commerce, May 10, 1951, p. 14.

TIRE CORD

The price of 12/4/2 cotton fabric on June 1 remained unchanged from the previous month, and stood at 91 cents per pound and 82.81 cents per square yard. The price of 1650/2 rayon passenger tire cord remained unchanged; however, 1650/2 truck tire cord declined to 69.63 cents per pound and fabric sold for 54.31 cents per square yard. This compares with 74 cents per pound for the tire cord during the previous month and 54.31 cents per square yard for the fabric.

Table 7.- Prices of cotton and rayon tire fabric, June and May 1, 1951

Fabric	Cord	Fabric weight per sq. yd. 1/	Price per pound		Price per sq. yd.	
			June 1	May 1	June 1	May 1
		Pound	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Passenger car tires						
Cotton fabric.....	12/4/2	.91	91.00	91.00	82.81	82.81
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2	.79	70.00	70.00	55.30	55.30
Truck tires						
Rayon fabric.....	1100/2	.62	75.50	75.50	46.81	46.81
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2	.78	69.63	74.00	54.31	57.72
Rayon fabric.....	2200/2	.82	69.75	69.75	57.20	57.20

1/ These are typical fabric weights and vary somewhat for different tire manufacturers.

Based on reports from independent rubber companies.

COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

ABACA: PHILIPPINE OUTPUT GROWING

Good progress is being made with the rehabilitation of the Philippine abaca industry, according to information received from Manila. Whereas only 233,949 bales of abaca were produced in the first four months of 1950, production from January through April of this year reached 387,309 bales—the highest total since the liberation of the islands. Should this rate of production be maintained, the Philippines this year would produce about 1,000,000 bales, equivalent to 2,000,000 piculs. This, too, would be the highest postwar figure on record, and only 200,000 bales less than normal annual prewar production, according to a spokesman for the Philippines Rehabilitation Finance Corporation.

Journal of Commerce, June 15, 1951, p. 12.

ARDIL: U. K. FELTMAKERS DEVELOPING USE OF SYNTHETIC FIBERS

Experiments are being carried out by the British Hat and Allied Feltmakers Research Association in Manchester, England to overcome problems encountered in the blending properties and dyeing qualities of synthetic fibers. Ardil (peanut fiber) and casein, mixed either with wool or fur in the manufacture of felt, are being used chiefly in these experiments. V. D. Freedland, an official of the Association, said "I cannot reveal in detail what is being done, but in general we are interested in the behavior of these synthetic fibers in felting processes and the results in the quality of felts." Secretary of the British Felt Hat Manufacturers Federation, J. M. McNulty, said of these fibers: "As far as I know, the quantity used is between 5 and 15 percent, but no hats have been made for the market yet, as so little ardil and casein is being produced.

Daily News Record, June 8, 1951, p. 6.

DUPONT BEGINS TO STUDY FIBER QUALITIES IN BLENDS

Research to determine the individual contribution of various fibers blended in yarns and fabrics has been undertaken by E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Company, according to Dr. Joseph Quig, of DuPont. Speaking before the Philadelphia Men's Apparel Association, Dr. Quig said: "The new fibers are complementary to viscose and acetate which are entrenched in the American textile economy because of their favorable prices and aesthetic properties. The relationship of the new and old man-made fibers is a most happy one since they will contribute to each other when used in blends."

Daily News Record, May 29, 1951, p. 23.

GLASS FIBER: NEW USES POINT TO INCREASING DEMAND

Newark, Ohio's biggest factory is running at capacity turning out glass—but not one ounce of it will go into windows, tumblers or bottles. The product from the plant, and from a dozen others in production or under construction, is glass fiber. It will take the place of steel in washing machines made by Apex Electrical Manufacturing Co. The Navy will use it instead of kapok in life preservers. California farmers will pack their asparagus with it in preference to peat moss. It will wind up in hundreds of other products, from batters to furniture and from suitcases to refrigerators.

The biggest glass fibers are broomstraw size—the sturdy kind that catch dust in a furnace air filter. The most slender filaments can only be seen with a microscope; $9 will buy you a pound of these, enough to wind around the earth 15 times. A pound of the cheapest variety goes for seven cents. The company making

glass here is Owens-Corning Fiberglad Corp., which back in 1939, the year after it was organized, thought it was doing pretty well to sell $3,500,000 worth. Last year its sales had multiplied more than twenty fold, yet $79 million of shipments couldn't keep up with demand. This year, with a new factory—its sixth—going into production by early fall at Anderson, South Carolina, it will ship about $110 million worth.

Wall Street Journal, May 31, 1951, p. 1.

JUTE: NEAR RECORD CROP HELD PROBABLE

While it has been accepted throughout the industry in recent weeks that bumper crops will be raised in Pakistan and India this year, the talk now is toward a record-breaking, or certainly a near record, production of the fiber in the new jute season commencing July 1. The newest estimate is that Pakistan will produce 8 million bales and India 4 million bales, a total of 12 million bales.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, June 22, 1951, p.1.

KENAF: U. S. GOVERNMENT TO PROMOTE PRODUCTION OF JUTE SUBSTITUTE

The Agriculture Department is preparing to negotiate with private firms for production of kenaf, a substitute for jute in making bags and rugs. The Commodity Credit Corporation has approved a program to grow kenaf in this and other Western Hemisphere countries; kenaf will then be available to relieve shortages of bagging caused by the jute scarcity. The program calls for contracting primarily for seed this year and only small amounts of kenaf fiber. How much seed can be produced from seed now available is not known, as kenaf yield is so variable. An acre may provide from 200 to 600 pounds of seed, depending on weather conditions.

Florida has been almost the only state where kenaf has been produced so far, but Department officials believe the fiber can be produced in almost all of the Southern States. They declined to say what the over-all cost of the kenaf program would be and described it as a "defense measure." The program is underwritten by the Defense Production Administration.

The Wall Street Journal, May 31, 1951, p. 9.

NYLON: PREDICT TRIPLED MARKET BY 1953

The recently signed licensing agreement between the Chemstrand Corp. and the Du Pont Co. for the manufacture of nylon yarn by the former, plus the latter's own expansion program will result in 240 million pounds becoming available by 1953, according to an estimate made at the week-end. The present Du Pont Co. output of nylon is estimated to be in the neighborhood of 100 million pounds annually. If the foregoing estimate is correct, it will represent a 12-fold growth in capacity in seven years, in the view of the predictor, Frank J. Solway, research director, the Chemstrand Corp. The Du Pont Co. anticipates a market for 300 million pounds of nylon in the near future, Solway told a gathering of the New York Society of Security Analysts. Nylon was first introduced to the trade in 1939.

Journal of Commerce, June 11, 1951, p. 16.

RAMIE PRODUCTION ON SOUND COMMERCIAL BASIS PREDICTED

Interest continues around the world in ramie, the wonder fiber. In this country only Newport Industries of Pensacola is doing any commercial scale growing, with its acreage at Belle Glade, Fla. British project in Kenya has signs of being more successful than poultry and peanut projects were. Ramie cultivation projects are under serious consideration for French Morocco and Borneo, and in the Fresno, California area. Main use of the fiber at present: In packing stern

tube propeller shafts, where it outlasts the conventional Belgian flax. Obstacles to greatly increased production and use have been decortication difficulties, ill-advised promotion, and disagreement as to the relative advantages of staple cuts and full length cuts for spinning. Decortication difficulties have been largely solved, and most of the "promotors" have had their day. Future development of ramie will probably proceed on a sound basis.

Chemical and Engineering News, June 11, 1951, p. 2352.

RAMIE: FIRM TO PRODUCE RAMIE REGISTERED FOR PHILIPPINES

A 1-million-dollar firm, Philippine Ra-Me Decorticating, Inc., to engage in the large-scale development and production of ramie in the Philippines has just been registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Head of the newly-organized company is Hans Menzi, leading paper distributor. The firm seeks to produce some 4 million pounds of ramie fiber annually when in full operation. A factory is now being set-up costing more than $500,000 in Cotabato, Mindanao, which will employ some 80 skilled and unskilled laborers besides some 400 farm workers in its ramie plantation in Mindanao.

Daily News Record, May 23, 1951, p. 34.

RAMIE: NEW RETTING PROCESS REPORTED

A report describing a new French process in the bacteriological retting of ramie, flax and tropical fibers has been issued by the Commerce Department's Office of Technical Services, it was announced. It outlines a process which permits retting of plants in which spontaneous retting is haphazard. Developers of the process found numerous bacteriological retting agents but were most successful with a pectinolytic anaerobic bacteria, clostridum corallinum, the Service said.

Journal of Commerce, June 21, 1951, p. 13.

RAYON: NEW 8 DENIER CRIMPED STAPLE DEVELOPED BY AVISCO

Development of an 8-denier crimped rayon staple which yields fabric with a springy hand approximating wool 58-60's was announced recently by American Viscose Corp. It fills a gap in the rayon staple line between 5-1/2 denier, the coarsest apparel staple rayon made heretofore, and 15-denier carpet staple. The 8-denier staple is being produced on a pilot-plant scale and is being used on a limited commercial scale in men's and boys' sweaters, bath mats, and upholstery and drapery fabrics. Other uses for this staple are said to be in men's hosiery, slacks, suitings, blankets, hand-knit yarns, knitted and wooly-type neckwear terry cloth.

The 8-denier staple yields fabrics that cannot be approached with finer rayon staple or with cotton. On the other hand, bath mats and throw rugs made of this denier staple are soft, luxurious, and easier on bare feet than wool rugs. Another advantage claimed for this staple is that it can be spun on the cotton as well as the worsted and woolen systems.

Southern Textile News, June 9, 1951, p. 4.

RAYON: PIANTS ARE SIATED FOR SOUTH AMERICA

Francisco Matarazzo, Brazilian industrialist, was reported in Caracas, Venezuela, recently making plans for the establishment of a $7 million rayon plant. Matarazzo was conferring with the Ministry of Development on this project, according to reports, and work is expected to start on the structure at an early date. Plans for the erection were nearing completion several weeks ago.

Earlier this year the Celanese Corp. of America also announced plans for the construction of a rayon yarn factory in Venezuela. According to representatives of the Celanese Corp., the new mill will cost $6 million and will be the most modern rayon yarn plant in the world. Production is scheduled for 5 million pounds annually.

Southern Textile News, June 9, 1951, p. 3.

RAYON: CUPRAMMONIUM FIBER USE STEPPED UP IN RUGS, SUITINGS AND KNIT GOODS

Cuprammonium rayon seems to be making a comeback in this country for blending into woolen rugs. Canadian and U. S. mills will import $2.3 million worth during the first six months of 1951. Canadian buyers have already contracted for $800,000 worth more for the April-August period, and the U. S. mills are negotiating for a $1 million contract for the third-quarter period. These contracts might be bigger but the Farben-Fabriken Bayer Synthetic Fibers Division in Dusseldorf who are making the material will sell only in exchange for raw materials—namely, cellulose. Stimulating factor: Discovery of a dyeing process which is used on the viscose solution before spinning. Symmetry of the fiber as it comes from the spinnerets is not distorted by subsequent dyeing. Result: Springier, more wool-like feel, the partisans say. Canadian mills have progressed from carpets, and now add this rayon to suitings and knit goods. They are so impressed by the results that they are talking up a Canadian cuprammonium plant in the near future.

Chemical and Engineering News, June 4, 1951, p. 2251.

RAYON: CELANESE CORP. TRIPLES MEXICAN PLANT PRODUCTION

Celanese Mexicana, Mexican operation of the Celanese Corp. of America, has announced it will triple its local production of viscose staple fiber. As one step toward this objective, the company is currently adding a new section to its factory in Zacapu, in the State of Michoacan, where it expects to expand its output from 6 to 8 million pounds a year. The company hopes to have the new section working by the end of this year, but an executive declined to reveal the cost of the expansion.

Southern Textile News, June 2, 1951, p. 11.

SARAN: NEW STAPLE REPORTED READY FOR CARPET TRADE

A new saran staple is to be introduced by National Plastics Products Co. and Dow Chemical Co., with its first distribution planned for use in floor coverings, according to reports from the textile market. Comment was declined by Ephraim Wyner, president of the company, which has its plant at Odenton, Md. According to market information, plans are for the production of a substantial poundage of the saran staple in deniers and lengths suitable for the fiber-hungry carpet industry.

Daily News Record, May 28, 1951, p. 1.

WOOL: DOMESTIC PRODUCTION TO BE HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR

Production of shorn and pulled wool in the United States probably will amount to about 260 million pounds, grease basis, or about 113 million pounds, scoured basis, this year. Output in 1950 amounted to 252.5 million pounds, grease basis (table 8). This forecast reflects an increase of 4 percent in the number of stock sheep on farms on January 1 over a year earlier, and is based on the assumption that the average weight per fleece will be about the same as the average for the last few years:

Table 8.- Number of sheep and lambs shorn, weight per fleece, price per pound received by growers, cash receipts, and wool production United States, 1940-50

Year	Sheep and lambs shorn 1/	Weight per fleece	Shorn wool production	Price per pound	Cash receipts	Pulled wool production	Total wool production
	Thousands	Pounds	Thousand pounds	Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds
1940.....	46,313	8.03	372,014	28.4	105,539	62,000	434,014
1942.....	49,287	7.88	388,297	40.1	155,728	66,700	454,997
1944.....	43,165	7.84	338,318	42.4	143,513	73,500	411,818
1946.....	34,718	8.08	280,487	42.3	118,639	61,300	341,787
1948.....	29,060	8.05	233,924	48.8	114,072	46,600	280,524
1949.....	26,975	8.04	216,873	49.4	107,137	35,600	252,473
1950 2/....	27,150	8.11	220,135	57.3	126,171	32,400	252,535

1/ Includes sheep shorn at commercial feeding yards.
2/ Preliminary.

The Wool Situation, BAE, April 1951, p. 9.

COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY AND EQUIPMENT

NEW WEAR TESTER

United States Testing Co., Inc., announces the installation of additional wear testing equipment to its textile and general testing laboratories. The new apparatus is known as the Stoll Quartermaster Universal Wear Tester and is used for all types of abrasion testing. The company can evaluate the abrasion resistance of resin treated and non-resin treated fabrics under such actual wearing conditions as bending, rolling, folding and in the regular flat test. This abrasion test machine was developed after exhaustive research, and it shows an extremely high correlation with actual wear tests. It is the company's most accurate testing apparatus to date in determining the correct application of resin treated fabrics.

Textile Bulletin, April 1951, p. 130.

20 MILLION YARDS OF CLOTH PROCESSED BY HOT OIL BATH

The new hot oil bath process for continuous dyeing of cotton and rayon textiles has been used to date for the processing of 20 million yards of cloth, General Dyestuff Corp. made known recently. The process was developed by members of the company's research staff. J. Robert Bonnar, technical director for the company, said that 12 mills, five of them among the country's largest cloth processors, have converted to the continuous hot oil method. "One prominent textile finisher wrote us," Mr. Bonnar said, "that the hot oil process is the longest step forward in the dye industry in my time." Many of the newest synthetic fibers just recently placed on the market may prove to be particularly adaptable to dyeing with the new continuous machinery, it was said.

The new process entails the "fixing" with hot oil instead of water of the dyes after application by a Williams Unit. The oil has a boiling point considerably higher than water. After passing through the Williams Unit, the oil is easily removed from the cloth by passage through a cold bath, containing Ingepal CA, a detergent. This treatment emulsifies the oil, which is then easily rinsed out, it is claimed. Fabrics can be dyed either wet or dry after the padding operation.

Daily News Record, June 1, 1951, p. 3.

NEW FIBER METER BLENDING SYSTEM UNIT INTRODUCED

A new 24-inch unit designed especially for incorporation in the fiber meter automatic blending system, has been announced by the W. D. Dodenhoff Company, Greenville, S. C. Basically, it is a smaller counterpart of the 36-inch fiber meter and provides for the scientific proportioning of small percentages of reusable waste throughout any fiber blend. It can be added to fiber meter systems now in operation or provided as part of new installation. Since waste should properly be only a small percentage of the over-all blend, the new unit is designed to weigh out increments of as little as two ounces of waste, while each of the larger fiber meters in the system is accurately delivering a predetermined 8 to 32 ounces of one of the component fibers. According to W. D. Dodenhoff, president of the company, many of the 30-odd leading mills which now use the larger system have ordered these 24-inch units for them, sight unseen, and before any price could be quoted, inasmuch as they have had such satisfaction with the fiber meter systems in producing consistent uniformity in a wide diversity of blends.

American Wool and Cotton Reporter, June 7,1951,p.43.

CIRCULAR LOOM DESIGNED FOR JUTE-BAG WEAVING

A circular loom for weaving coarse fibers, especially jute, has been developed by Fayolle & Cie., 106 Cours Emile Zola, Villeurbanne (Rhone), France. The loom produces a plain-weave tube for bags about 23-1/2 to 31 in. in flat width. Speed of the loom is about 150 picks per minute. At this speed, tests are said to show one stop for yarn breakage every 2 hours. The loom has both filling and warp stop motions. The two shuttles in the circular loom are drawn by magnets, roll on four rollers, and hold two cops of yarn. a 500-gr. cop is said to last 17 minutes. Time required for changing cops is said to be 15 seconds. The company states that one operator can run six looms, or more if efficiency required is not over 75%. Power required is 1 hp. Price of the loom, in France, is 600,000 francs (about $2,000).

Textile World, May 1951, pp. 228, 230.

TEXTILE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

RESEARCH COSTS HELD JUSTIFIED

The economics of chemical research was discussed by Howard R. Huston, assistant to the president of American Cyanamid Co., at a recent forum attended by more than 50 Stamford and Greenwich, Connecticut, teachers who visited the company's Stamford Research Laboratories as a part of the Industry-Education Day Program, sponsored by the Stamford-Greenwich Manufacturers' Council.

Mr. Huston pointed out that many people are inclined to view the cost of drugs to the consumer as being exorbitant. In answer to this, Mr. Huston said: "... The chemical industry is continually searching for better products in spite of the fact that they usually result in the necessity for scrapping old processes and installing new ones. When a new drug is introduced it may have cost a company many millions of dollars before one cent is received. It must always be borne in mind that tomorrow a new drug may come along which will replace today's product.....In 1950, Cyanamid spent over $12,000,000 on research, about $5,000,000 in Stamford. For several years the figure has been in excess of $10 million. It has ranged as high as 5 percent of our total income, one of the highest outlays in all industry."

Journal of Commerce, N. Y., May 21, 1951, p. 11.

SPI FLAMMABILITY TESTER AVAILABLE FOR TEXTILES

The flammability tester developed by the Society of the Plastics Industry is now available from Custom Scientific Instruments, Inc., P. O. Box 170, Arlington, N. J. The tester was designed to measure relative flammability of sheet materials, including textiles, from 0.001 to 0.250 inches thick, or more. The sample is easily mounted by laying it in the specimen holder outside the cabinet and snapping the spring-tension jaw shut. Combustible samples are tested by sliding the specimen holder with sample into the cabinet. When the sample reaches test position, it contacts igniting flame and simultaneously starts a timing clock. With the first burst of flame from a small vertical segment of the sample, a cotton thread is burned, stopping the ignition clock. Simultaneously a second clock starts and continues to run until the traveling flame burns another thread. Ignition and burning ratesare measured automatically. A thermocouple mpunted in the flame registers the intensity of heat on a pyrometer during the same operation. Ease of extinguishment can be judged on the same sample. Greater degrees of severity can be applied to flame-resistant materials. Highly flame-retarded samples that will not continue to support combustion by themselves are tested in vertical position by operating the clocks manually.

Textile World, May 1951, p. 242.

SPECIFIC-GRAVITY INSTRUMENT GIVES DIRECT READING

A new, direct-indicating Densitrol specific-gravity measuring device has been added to the line of liquid-density measuring instruments made by Precision Thermometer & Instrument Co., 1400 Brandywine St., Philadelphia 30, Pa. Designed to eliminate the error caused by liquid and gas interface in usual hydrometers, this instrument can be used not only where periodic checks of liquid density must be made, but also where process peculiarities, such as excessive corrosiveness, inflammability, etc., prevent the drawing of samples from the system. The instrument operates as a simple by-pass in any liquid line or vessel, and specific gravity may be read directly, as required.

Textile World, May 1951, pp. 226, 228.

OILSEEDS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

OUTPUT OF EDIBLE FATS AND OILS UP 5 PERCENT

Output of edible fats and oils (including the oil equivalent of oilseeds exported for crushing) is likely to total about 5 percent more this summer than in the same period a year earlier. Increases in both vegetable oils and lard are likely. Stocks of soybeans on April 1 were substantially greater than the year before. Stocks of old-crop cottonseed remaining to be crushed are small, but crushings of new-crop cottonseed prior to October 1 are likely to be greater than in the comparable period a year earlier.

Apparent disappearance of primary fats and oils (other than butter) for domestic food uses this summer probably will be less than a year earlier. In July-September 1950, following the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, these uses (including increases in inventories in unreported positions) increased about 1.5 pounds per capita (both civilian and military) over the comparable period in 1949. During the current (April-June) quarter, users apparently are drawing upon inventories which they accumulated during the latter part of 1950 and early 1951. Consequently, apparent disappearance of primary fats and oils for domestic food uses in both April-June and July-September 1951 may be less than a year earlier.

The Fats and Oils Situation, BAE, May-June 1951, p.3.

PRICES OF FATS AND OILS DROP SHARPLY

Prices of most major fats and oils declined in May. For the first time since specific ceilings were placed on soybean and cottonseed oils, prices for these oils have dropped below their ceiling. Prices for corn and peanut oil have dropped sharply in the last month. The weakness in prices of edible vegetable oils probably indicates some drawing upon inventories of end products (such as shortening, and cooking and salad oils) accumulated in unreported positions during 1950. Butter prices increased, reflecting a continued lower production compared with a year earlier and stronger demand.

Prices of drying oils, such as linseed, tung and dehydrated castor, also tended downward. Supplies of linseed oil appear to be ample and, as in the case of food products, end-users may be meeting current needs to some extent out of inventories. Prices of tung and castor oils since last summer have increased much more sharply than have those for linseed oil. Prices of inedible tallow and greases also weakened slightly in late May.

Demand and Price Situation, May 1951,p.14.

DOMESTIC VEGETABLE OILS AND MEALS PRICES CONTINUE TO DECLINE IN JUNE

As of mid-June, prices of domestic vegetable oils had fallen considerably under the May level and, except for tung oil, were only slightly higher than June a year ago. Tung oil continued to recede from the April all-time high of 42.8 cents and stood at 41.5 cents per pound on June 18.

Oilseed meals have experienced substantial declines in the past month or so. In fact, of the major oilseed meals listed in table 8, only cottonseed meal is now commanding a price higher than the same month a year ago. Oilseed meal price declines ranged from a low of $4.10 per ton for coconut meal to a high of $20.25 for linseed meal.

Table 9.- Prices of vegetable oils and meals

	June 1951	May 1951 11/	April 1951	June 1950
		Cents per pound		
OILS 1/	June 18			
Cottonseed oil	16.5	22.2	23.5	14.0
Peanut oil	18.0	21.8	24.8	14.0
Soybean oil	16.8	19.5	20.5	13.2
Corn oil	16.5	22.2	24.4	14.6
Coconut oil 2/	16.5	19.0	21.4	16.1
Linseed oil 3/	19.3	23.4	24.2	18.9
Tung oil 4/	41.5	42.2	42.8	23.9
		Dollars per ton		
MEALS 5/	June 16			
Cottonseed meal 6/	79.00	83.10	83.10	66.00
Peanut meal 7/	69.00	71.60	66.75	76.50
Soybean meal 8/	68.50	76.55	75.45	85.15
Coconut meal 9/	66.00	63.95	61.90	70.10
Linseed meal 10/	48.50	59.60	64.50	68.75

1/ Crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills except as noted. From Oil, Paint, and Drug Reporter, (daily quotations) and from Fats and Oils Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).
2/ Crude, tanks, carlots, Pacific Coast. Three cents added to allow for tax on first domestic processing.
3/ Raw, drums carlots, New York.
4/ Drums, carlots, New York.
5/ Bagged carlots, as given in Feedstuffs, (daily quotations) and Feed Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).
6/ 41 percent protein, Memphis
7/ 45 percent protein, S. E. Mills.
8/ 44 percent protein Chicago; 41 percent prior to July 1950.
9/ 19 percent protein, Los Angeles.
10/ 36 percent protein, Minneapolis; 34 percent prior to July 1950.
11/ Preliminary.

SET SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR 1951 COTTONSEED CROP

The U. S. Department of Agriculture announced that price support loans on the 1951 crop cottonseed will be available at $65.50 ton for basis grade (100) and that in areas where a purchase program may be necessary, purchases will be made at $61.50 a ton basis grade (100) cottonseed. Prices for 1951-crop cottonseed will be supported by means of loans, purchase agreements and purchases of cottonseed and of cottonseed products. The supports reflect 90 percent of the January 15, 1951 parity price of $71 a ton for average quality seed.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, June 5, 1951, p. 1.

USE OF EDIBLE GRADE PEANUTS UP 5 PERCENT FROM LAST SEASON

The total quantity of shelled edible peanuts reported used during the period September 1, 1950 through May 31, 1951 amounted to 404 million pounds, about 5 percent more than were used to this date last year. Larger quantities were used as salted peanuts and for making peanut butter, while a smaller quantity was used in candy. The amount of shelled peanuts crushed for oil, cake and meal was running about 13 percent below last season.

Table 10.- Shelled peanuts (raw basis) reported used domestically in primary products

Reported use	Sept. 1 - May 31, :		Season, Sept. 1 - Aug. 31	
	1950-51	1949-50	1949-50	1948-49
	Thousand pounds			
TOTAL, all grades	712,280	737,388	925,058	710,596
Edible grades, total	403,959	383,109	510,109	484,431
Peanut candy 1/	91,990	97,802	126,287	107,181
Salted peanuts	98,274	88,613	118,291	120,038
Peanut butter 2/	209,107	189,280	256,168	250,184
Other products	4,588	7,414	9,363	7,048
Crushed for oil, cake, and meal 3/	308,321	354,279	414,949	226,165

1/ Includes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.
2/ Excludes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.
3/ Includes ungraded or straight run peanuts.
From: "Peanut Stocks and Processing," BAE, June 22, 1951.

BLAW-KNOX DESIGNING NEW SOY EXTRACTION PLANT

Chemical Plants Division of Blaw-Knox Co. is designing and furnishing a new 150-tons-per-day soybean extraction plant for Toronto Elevators, Limited, of Toronto, Ont. Under the contract, Blaw-Knox will supply processing equipment and machinery; and will supervise field procurement, erection, and initial operation.

The equipment will be housed in a two-part building, one for flake preparation and the other for extraction, meal handling, and oil finishing. The Toronto project will be one of seven installations now in use or under construction to employ the Blaw-Knox Rotocel, an original American development in soybean extraction processing; the use of this rotary extractor permits the recovery of from 97 to 99 percent of the oil in the soybean.

Journal of Commerce, June 12, 1951, p. 11.

SALES OF SYNTHETIC DETERGENTS 1,200 MILLION POUNDS IN 1950; EXPECT 2 BILLION IN 1952

Retail sales of synthetic detergents are estimated at 1,200 million pounds in 1950, one-fourth of the total for soap and synthetic detergents in that year. Trade sources indicate that in 1950 synthetics represented 31 percent of total non-liquid soap and detergent sales to housewives and 51 percent of package (non-bar) soap and detergent sales. If raw materials were available, it is felt that sales of synthetics might increase to 75 percent of package sales within the next two years. However, temporary shortages of plants and raw materials will prevent such an expansion in that time. Trade sources believe that total sales of two billion pounds can be reasonably expected if plant and materials shortages are alleviated. Demand for certain raw materials used in synthetic detergents, such as benzene and sulphuric acid, has increased greatly in recent months, but steps are being taken which are expected to remedy the situation by mid-1952. If this occurs, as seems probable, it is likely that soap production will be further reduced.

Fats and Oils Situation, May-June 1951, p. 14.

L I N T E R S A N D C E L L U L O S E

LINTERS SUPPLY IN 1950 OFF 22 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

The supply of linters in the first 9 months of this season was 22 percent smaller than in the August-April period a year ago. In the same period, domestic consumption of linters was 11 percent smaller than a year earlier. Supply and distribution data for cotton linters in the first 9 months of this season and last season are given in table 11.

Table 11.- Supply and distribution of cotton linters, United States, for first nine months of 1949-50 and 1950-51 seasons

	First 9 months 1949-50	First 9 months 1950-51	Percentage change 1950-51 vs. 1949-50
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	Percent
Supply, total	2,158	1,685	-22
Carry-over, August 1	495	459	-7
Production	1,514	1,126	-26
Imports	149	100	-33
Distribution, total	2,158	1,685	-22
Consumption	1,231	1,093	-11
Exports	155	80	-48
Oil mill stocks 1/	107	53	-50
Consuming establishments stocks 1/	354	292	-18
Public storage stocks	118	123	+ 4
Other 1/	193	44	-77

1/ Stocks at end of April. Stocks under "Other" includes linters stored in other than oil mills, consuming establishments and public storage, also linters in transit or otherwise unaccounted for.

From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, June 8, 1951.

LINTERS PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, STOCKS, AND PRICES CONTINUE TO DECREASE

Production of linters at oil mills totaled 52,000 bales in April compared with 76,000 bales in March and 107,000 in April a year ago. Consumption of linters totaled 115,000 bales in May. This compares with 111,000 bales in April and 139,000 in May a year ago. Stocks of linters decreased to 468,000 bales in April from 516,000 bales in March and 542,000 bales in February. This compares with 546,000 bales on hand in May of the previous year. Prices of grades 2, 4, and 6 linters continued to fall moderately, but still were more than double those received for similar grades during the same month a year ago.

Table 12.- Cotton linters: Production, consumption by industries, stocks and prices, United States, for specified months

	May 1951	April 1951	March 1951	February 1951	May 1950
	Thousand bales				
Production 1/	2/	52.0	76.0	105.0	78.0
Consumption 3/	114.9	110.8	125.0	109.9	138.5
Quantity bleached	70.5	67.5	66.9	63.7	83.4
Other industries	44.4	43.3	58.1	46.2	50.2
Stocks 4/	2/	468.0	516.0	542.0	546.0
Prices 5/			Cents		
No. 2 grade, per pound	24.74	25.45	25.92	25.92	10.96
No. 4 grade, per pound	18.77	20.06	20.33	20.33	7.81
No. 6 grade, per pound	16.02	16.04	16.04	16.00	5.26

1/ From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.
2/ Data not available.
3/ From Facts for Industry, "Cotton and Linters," Bureau of the Census.
4/ Total stocks in consumer establishments, public storage and warehouses, and mills. Stocks at end of the month. From Facts for Industry, "Cotton Linters," Bureau of the Census.
5/ Average of average weekly prices, Memphis, Dallas, and Atlanta. From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.

MAY PRICES OF PURIFIED LINTERS AND DISSOLVING WOOD PULP UNCHANGED

The price of purified linters in April as well as the price of all three grades of dissolving wood pulp remained unchanged from the previous month. (Table 13, page 19).

Table 13.- Average price of purified linters and dissolving wood pulp, United States, for specified years and months

(Cents per pound)

	Purified linters 1/	Wood pulp 2/		
		Standard viscose grade	High-tenacity viscose grade	Acetate and cupra grade
1946	9.50	5.60	5.85	6.15
1947	16.30	7.03	7.44	8.04
1948	11.26	7.93	8.44	9.20
1949	8.62	7.94	8.44	9.06
1950	16.86	7.86	8.43	9.15
1951, January	27.70	9.25	9.75	11.25
1951, February	27.70	9.25	9.75	11.25
1951, March	27.70	9.25	9.75	11.25
1951, April	27.70	9.25	9.75	11.25
1951, May	27.70	9.25	9.75	11.25

1/ Estimated weighted average prices for 1947 and earlier years. Average of monthly prices 1948 to date. On a 7 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. pulp plant. Average freight to users is 0.5 cent per pound. Prices supplied by a producer.

2/ Average of monthly prices, 1946-50. Compiled from Rayon Organon and from letters to us from producer. Wood pulp prices are 10 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. domestic producing mill, full freight, and 3 percent transportation tax allowed, Dec. 1, 1947, on; freight equalized with that Atlantic or Gulf port carrying lowest backhaul rate to destination plus 3 percent of backhaul charges, prior to Dec. 1.

APRIL PRODUCTION OF DISSOLVING WOOD PULP OFF; AVAILABLE SUPPLY INCREASES

The amount of dissolving wood pulp produced domestically in April totaled 42,829 tons, compared with 46,836 tons the previous month and 37,828 tons in April a year ago. The amount of dissolving wood pulp available for domestic consumption in March rose to 65,886 tons, the second largest amount recorded as being available for domestic consumption.

Table 14.- Dissolving wood pulp: Production, exports, imports, and quantities made available for consumption, U.S., for specified years and months

(Tons)

	Domestic production 1/	Imports 2/	Exports 2/	Available for domestic consumption 3/
1939	193,420	88,052	48,332	233,240
1946	298,474	202,192	8,491	492,175
1947	324,927	248,606	10,389	563,144
1948	356,700	243,740	15,937	584,503
1949	372,043	154,348	25,928	500,463
1950	473,388	239,220	25,514	687,094
1950, April	37,828	21,590	1,440	57,978
1951, January	44,979	22,501	1,498	65,982
1951, February	39,115	15,485	1,041	53,559
1951, March	46,836	19,946	896	65,886
1951, April	42,829	4/	4/	4/

1/ Sulphite, bleached, dissolving grades. From Facts for Industry, "Pulp and Paper Manufacturers," Bureau of the Census.

2/ Sulphite, bleached, rayon and special chemical grades. Data from Foreign Commerce Statistics of the U. S., Bureau of the Census.

3/ Production plus imports, less exports.

4/ No data available.

STUDY USES OF SCRUB OAK FOR PAPER MANUFACTURE

The State of Georgia has been asked to join Florida in a project for making paper pulp from scrub oak. Representatives Fred Bentley of Cobb County and Chapell Matthews of Athens, members of a special legislative committee sent to the University of Florida to investigate research work being done there on scrub oak, will recommend to the Georgia Legislature that they vote that Georgia join Florida in turning millions of acres of scrub oak into a cash crop.

It was stated that the University of Florida has agreed to turn over its formulas for a new low-cost papermaking process to the Herty Laboratories at Savannah, Ga., without cost if Georgia agrees to help. At the present time the Pulp and Paper Laboratory of the University of Florida is working with a small cooker that produces only two quarts of pulp material at a time. The Herty Laboratories have larger facilities for pilot plant work.

Work that has so far been done at the University of Florida convinces the exerpimenters there that scrub oak can be used as a raw material for high quality paper as well as material for cardboard and crates and could possibly be mixed with plastic for door facings, wallboard and hard floorings.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, June 6, 1951, p. 9.

MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

MONTAN, SUGAR CANE WAXES PRODUCTION INCREASE ADVISED

The waxes and polishes industry advisory committee last week recommended that the National Production Authority encourage domestic production of waxes to lessen dependence of United States industry on carnauba wax imports which could be cut off by war. The committee suggested that NPA aid in obtaining sulphuric acid, soidum bichromate and other raw materials for a West Coast producer making montan wax and that the government lend assistance in getting steel for sugar cane wax plant expansion. Both the montan and the cane wax can be used to supplement and to substitute for, imports of carnauba wax used in floor, shoe, auto, furniture and metal polishes and in leather dressings and finishes.

Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, May 28,1951,p.75.

FIRESTONE PIANS TO TRIPLE OUTPUT OF VINYL, RESINS

Production of vinyl resin and synthetic rubber copolymers is to be tripled by a new addition planned for the Firestone Plastics Co. plant here, according to Roger S. Firestone, president. The $5,500,000 program will depend upon availability of materials, he declared, especially those necessary in the equipment.

This follows a $2,500,000 expansion announced last month under which nine 25,000-gallon storage tanks for vinyl chloride and five new reactors already have been installed to produce resin, it is noted.

Daily News Record, May 28, 1951, p. 25.